

Partners in Crime

THE WHISTLER

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1951

7:30 - 8:00 PM PST

1 ANNCR: And now stay tuned for the mystery program that is
2 unique among all mystery programs..because even when
3 you know who is guilty - you always receive a startling
4 surprise at the final curtain - in the Signal Oil
5 Program - "The Whistler"....
6 MUSIC: (WHISTLE)
7 MUSIC: (TYMP BEATS)
8 ANNCR: (ON ECHO) ...Signal...the famous go-farther gasoline -
9 invites you to sit back and enjoy another strange story
10 by the "Whistler".
11 MUSIC: (WHISTLE ON TO FULL ECHO...DIMINISH ECHO TO CLEAR AND
12 SEGUE TO ORCHESTRA AND UP TO CLIMAX)
13 WHISTLER: ...I am the Whistler...(SNEAK IN ORCHESTRA THEME AND
14 CARRY UNDER FOLLOWING) ...And I know many things for I
15 walk by night. I know many strange tales hidden in the
16 hearts of men and women who have stepped into the
17 shadows. Yes, I know the nameless terrors of which
18 they dare not speak.
19 MUSIC: (THEME AND TYMPANY BRIDGE)
20 ANNCR: And now for the Signal Oil Company, the Whistler's
21 strange story, "Partners In Crime".

1 WHISTLER: The fog clung in little patches of moving mist to the
2 abrupt sides of San Francisco's Telegraph Hill....the
3 bungalow on the side of the hill seemed to cling even
4 more precariously, though it had hung there for years
5Below could be seen the twinkling lights across
6 the bay.....Inside the hillside house a strange scene
7 was in progress...a man lay stretched inertly across
8 a couch at the far end of the living room...elsewhere
9 were the unmistakable evidences of a cocktail party.....
10 and through it all a strange, ominous silence....it
11 could be sensed outside by the two people standing on
12 the front porch...they looked at each other, gasped in
13 fear....

14 BOY: (SNIFFING) Smells like gas escaping. I'll knock
15 again! You don't suppose --

16 EVE: Knock! Quickly! We've got to wake him up...(CALLS)
17 Chris!

18 SOUND: KNOCKING ON DOOR

19 BOY: (SHOUTING) Chris! Chris!, answer the door! CHRIS!!

20 MUSIC: (HITS AND UNDER)

21 CHRIS: (MOANS SLIGHTLY, TRYING TO STRUGGLE UP)

22 WHISTLER: You hear them, don't you, Chris...the muffled shouts...
23 and you can smell the faint, oddly sweet odor of the

(NOTE:
24 BOY & EVE escaping gas, too...you don't know how long you've
OFF.....
25 MUFFLED been lying on the couch...you only know that your
SHOUTS OF
26 "CHRIS!") muscles won't seem to tune in with your brain, respond

27 SOUND: ...you try...again...but it's...
GAS, AND
MUFFLED KNOCKING
ON THE DOOR

1 CHRIS: (GIVING UP) (GROANS)...No use...! (GROANS,
2 FAINTS)
3 SOUND: BATTERING ON DOOR...IT GIVES, CRASHES DOWN
4 MUSIC: (POINTS OF ACTION: OUT FOR:)
5 SOUND: SLAPPING
6 BOY: Come on, Ghris..Chris you're all right..c'mon now!
7 CHRIS: (WAKING UP) Ohhhh...Hey, you got me out of there!
8 BOY: Sure..sure we did.
9 EVE: (RELIEVED) (ALMOST SOBBING) Ohhh..he's all right
10 Chris darling....
11 CHRIS: (STRUGGLING UP, GAINING STRENGTH) Yeh.. yeh, I'm
12 okay..okay..Whew! That was close!
13 BOY: You better stay with him awhile, Eve....
14 EVE: Of course I will. It's a good thing we came back
15 If your wife, Helen, hadn't forgotten her gloves--
16 BOY: Yeh..first time it's been a good thing--the way
17 she leaves things.....
18 EVE: Well thank goodness she did this time.
19 BOY: Well -- nothing more I can do..Helen'll be
20 wondering what's happened-- take care of yourself
21 Chris, boy.. leave these windows open like this -
22 let the place air out.
23 CHRIS: Thanks, Jim -- I'm okay.
24 EVE: Goodnight, Jim. Explain to Helen.
25 BOY: (FADING) Sure, sure....
26 SOUND: HE GOES OUT, DOOR CLOSES
27 EVE: (LETS DOWN) Chris, oh, Chris you could have been
28 killed.

1 CHRIS: Yeh, bad accident, huh?

2 EVE: But was it, Chris --? Was it an accident? That's

3 the second time in two weeks -- last time it was

4 the brakes on your car....

5 CHRIS: Just coincidence, Eve.....

6 EVE: No -- and what about your partner, Fred -? He

7 was nearly killed twice last month --! Chris, I

8 can't believe these things are accidental...

9 CHRIS: Sure they are. Gotta be, Eve. I was careless

10 about the brakes on the car..and tonight...well,

11 a little too much to drink maybe..left the gas

12 jet on the stove.....

13 EVE: I don't believe it.

14 CHRIS: Well...I'm here, anyway..let's forget it.....

15 EVE: I can't...

16 CHRIS: You go on home, honey...get some sleep..you're

17 upset, that's all....

18 EVE: I am, Chris...terribly... you'll be all right....

19 you're sure?

20 CHRIS: Sure..perfectly all right!

21 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)

22 WHISTLER: You don't believe your own words, do you, Chris...

23 Eve's suspicion that it was more than an accident

24 is an opinion which you actually share.....and the

25 things that happened to your partner, Freddy

26 Stacey...they weren't accidents either, you know.

(MORE)

1 WHISTLER: The following day you remain at home...staying
CONT:
2 completely away from the office in which you and Freddy
3 operate a Literary Agency..and that night, your girl
4 friend, Eve Leland drops by again and the two of you
5 are having cocktails together--Eve is still
6 apprehensive-----
7 EVE: Chris, you've got to do something about this...go away
8 perhaps.....
9 CHRIS: Oh, stop it! Don't let your imagination run wild, Eve.
10 EVE: It isn't imagination!
11 CHRIS: All right, so there's a wild man loose in town - trying
12 to kill me - me, Chris Matthews - who does nothing any
13 more precarious than run a literary agency --
14 EVE: It's something else - something in the air - the
15 things that have been happening to you..Chris I'm
16 afraid.
17 SOUND: KNOCK ON DOOR....
18 EVE: Well - expecting someone, Chris?
19 CHRIS: No...I wasn't...
20 SOUND: KNOCK REPEATS.
21 EVE: Better get it. Shall I go?
22 CHRIS: I'll get it.....
23 SOUND: CHRIS TO DOOR...DOOR OPENED
24 CHRIS: (GASPS) Captain Dris------(BREAKS OFF) No, it can't
25 be, I----
26 LIEUT: (CANADIAN ACCENT) I'm sorry, Mr. Matthews...uh - it
27 is, Chris Matthews, yes?
28 CHRIS: That's right. But you - you looked like----

1 LIEUT: My brother..I look very much like my brother Captain
2 Driscoll...Permit me, sir - I am Lieutenant Driscoll
3 Canadian Intelligence Service.
4 CHRIS: I ...I see...(SLOWLY) Uh -- I'm sorry, the shock of
5 the resemblance...Oh - uh - come in, won't you?
6 LIEUT: (ENTERING) Sorry to interrupt like this -- (TO EVE)
7 Madame, my forgiveness ---
8 CHRIS: Lieutenant this is my fiancée, Miss Eve Leland. Eve
9 Lieutenant Driscoll.
10 EVE&LIEUT: (AD LIB ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS)
11 CHRIS: Get you a drink Lieutenant? Scotch maybe?
12 LIEUT: Perfect.
13 CHRIS: (AS HE FIXES DRINK) Your brother and I - the Captain
14 we were very close friends.
15 LIEUT: I know....(REMINISCING) Yes, my brother...He was quite
16 a gentleman..
17 EVE: He ---he's dead?
18 LIEUT: He was killed, madame...in some unexplained fashion
19 only last year.
20 CHRIS: Uh - your drink, Lieutenant.
21 LIEUT: Thank you.....
22 CHRIS: (TOASTING) To your brother!
23 (ALL DRINK)
24 EVE: You never heard how he died -- who killed him?
25 LIEUT: No, madame..His mission perhaps had something to do
26 with it...He was also in Intelligence too. And at
27 the time -- unfortunately - was assigned to protect a
28 most valuable item - being sent from France to a
29 Canadian museum.
30 CHRIS: A royal dagger of some sort wasn't it Lieutenant?

1 LIEUT: A most valuable one -- jewel encrusted and once owned
2 by Louis the 14th. It's worth millions of francs.
3 EVE: And it wasn't recovered?
4 LIEUT: It was not, madame ... in fact, the king's dagger is the
5 one clue to my brother's murder.
6 EVE: I see ...
7 LIEUT: But, please -- enough of me and my problems -- I only
8 looked you up, Mr. Matthews, because I knew you and my
9 brother were friends.
10 CHRIS: I'm glad you came by -- I'll tell my partner, Freddy
11 Stacey -- he was with me in that little French village
12 when your brother was killed
13 LIEUT: Oh yes, you were touring together - for your firm, I
14 believe you wrote.
15 CHRIS: Trying to pick up a few more rare old volumes...before
16 all of them are lost to the world ... Where are you
17 staying, Lieutenant -- I'd like to --
18 LIEUT: I'm at the Clift. But I'm afraid the length of my stay...
19 CHRIS: Well, at least I know .. who can tell, you might have
20 to be here longer ...
21 LIEUT: (SMILES) Meanwhile, it's been nice to just have seen
22 you ... talked to you ... and you, Madame. (RISING)
23 I must get along now though.
24 CHRIS: No, no ... you can have another drink...please...sit a
25 while, Lieutenant. Give me at least some news to take
26 to my partner in the morning.
27 LIEUT: Well, if you insist --

1 CHRIS: I do ... and I'll get working on a couple more drinks
2 here.
3 EVE: Three, darling. Remember me?
4 CHRIS: Oh, of course - sorry, Eve...
5 SOUND: HE STARTS MIXING DRINKS
6 CHRIS: Kind of a shock, you know, lieutenant -- your popping
7 in - looking so much like your brother...
8 LIEUT: Yes, I know....
9 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)
10 WHISTLER: There's a reason you're not thinking of Eve, isn't
11 there, Chris...yes...and the conversation for the
12 remainder of the evening holds little of your attention.
14 So you're glad when they both leave. Next morning at the
14 office...when you walk in on Freddy, confront him with
15 the news...
16 SOUND: DOOR CLOSES
17 CHRIS: Well, Freddy...last night...our - uh - past came calling.
18 FREDDY: (JUMPS) Uh - ?
19 CHRIS: Captain Driscoll's brother...looked so much like him,
20 I almost thought I was seeing a ghost....
21 FREDDY: What does he want - ? What's he doing here?
22 CHRIS: He claims it's official business...I hope it has nothing
23 to do with the King's Dagger.
24 FREDDY: We've got to get rid of it. We've waited long enough.
25 CHRIS: I wonder if we can ever wait long enough..your idea of
26 laying low...
27 FREDDY: I was as much your idea!

1 CHRIS: Arguing isn't going to get us anywhere, Freddy...
2 FREDDY: You're so calm...What is it, Chris -- some idea turnin
3 around in that conniving brain of yours - some way of
4 making me the fall guy?!

5 CHRIS: Your blood pressure, Freddy... you were alwas too
6 excitable.

7 FREDDY: And with good reason - having you as a partner.... a
8 partner in crime...

9 CHRIS: A partner in murder, remember that, Freddy boy...it
10 keeps us close...

11 FREDDY: Close! And where are we?

12 CHRIS: Where are we - is right... we haven't even got that
13 little bejewelled weapon in our possession.

14 FREDDY: You know it's arriving in a few days.

15 CHRIS: If we can trust our sailor friend Higgins.

16 FREDDY: I've told you we can! I've told you a dozen times!!

17 CHRIS: Let's stop this, Freddy. Look where it's leading us -
18 feeling this way - hating each other so....

19 FREDDY: What do you mean by that?

20 CHRIS: I mean the two accidents I've had this week....

21 FREDDY: So? I've had two myself...what are you implying...?
22 That -- ?

23 CHRIS: That I'd best get rid of you before you get rid of
24 me, Freddy --

25 FREDDY: Nonsense! You talk like a fool...

26 CHRIS: Do I Freddy - ? Do I really? You know, I've a terrible
27 strong hunch about something --

1 FREDDY: Yes?
2 CHRIS: A hunch that one of us -- one or the other will be qui
3 dead when Higgins' ship pulls into San Francisco harbo
4 FREDDY: Don't say that!
5 CHRIS: Can't help it, Freddy -- it's on my mind -- the though
6 that one of us will be dead...I wonder which one...
7 don't you, Freddy?
8 FREDDY: I - I never should have gotten into this...it's
9 fiendish...a.....a nightmare!
10 CHRIS: That it is, Freddy boy....a wild, frightening nightmare
11 ...but with one difference -- the two men going throug
12 it must remember something quite important --
13 FREDDY: Remember what?
14 CHRIS: To keep his eyes open -- wide open -- so that the other
15 doesn't stab him in the back!
16 FREDDY: You really believe that's the way it is, don't you?
17 CHRIS: I beleive that I'm going to keep my eyes open, Freddy..
18 yes...I'm going to keep them open very wide...(CHUCKLE
19 How about you - ?
20 MUSIC: (CURTAIN)

OPENING COMMERCIAL:

1 ANNCR: How fast will your car pickup?
2 Pickup? Just try a tankful of Signal Ethyl - and see!
3 How easily will your car climb a hill?
4 Climb a hill? Just try a tankful of Signal Ethyl - and
5 see! You'll see the peppiest - most thrilling
6 performance your car is capable of. After all - Signal
7 Ethyl - the premium grade of Signal's famous go-farther
8 gasoline- is a true super-fuel - engineered to bring out
9 the best in any car - of any age. Engineered to put
10 real getup and go under your toe. Engineered to float
11 you smoothly in high - over hills that make other cars
12 complain and shift. The kind of driving that's really
13 fun. So just for fun - why not treat your car to a
14 tankful of Signal Ethyl - and see? See for yourself!

1 MUSIC: (THEME)

2 WHISTLER: You weren't toying with Freddy, were you, Chris...when
3 you made your grim observation that one or the other of
4 you would be dead...no...you believe it because you
5 think now that that's the only way it can be...you no
6 longer trust one another...you watch each other like a
7 pair of sentries...fearful that at the least expected
8 moment the other will strike...That's the way it is for
9 the next few days after you talk with Freddy about the
10 brother of the man you two murdered...You decide your
11 partner must die soon...and you must take over the
12 Louis 14th dagger yourself, dispose of it as quickly as
13 quietly as possible...That's why you keep in constant
14 contact with the steamer office...call when you notice
15 in the papers that Higgins' ship is listed under delayed
16 arrivals...

17 CHRIS: (ON PHONE) Hello..hello...Shipping News, please...

18 GIRL: What information did you wish, sir?

19 CHRIS: Uh - there's a ship the Algonquin, due in tomorrow...
20 It's listed as delayed in today's paper. I wonder---

21 GIRL: One moment, sir... I'm checking....Oh yes...There's
22 been a change in its course...repairs or something, sir
23 ...the Algonquin will stop at San Pedro before it puts
24 in here...just a short delay, sir

25 CHRIS: Thanks.

26 SOUND: (PHONE UP)

27 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)

1 WHISTLER: As you hang up and leave the bungalow, an idea suddenly
2 occurs to you, doesn't it, Chris...Yes...and as you drive
3 downtown a plan begins to take shape in your mind.
4 Before going to the office you stop and send a wire to
5 Seaman Al Higgins care of his ship in San Pedro. Just
6 before lunch, you're at your desk when the phone rings.
7 SOUND: ANTICIPATE PHONE RING. RECEIVER UP
8 CHRIS: Hello?
9 HIGGINS: (FILTER) That you, Mister Matthews?
10 CHRIS: Yes..
11 HIGGINS: (FILTER) Alvy Higgins 'ere, Guvnor. What's wrong?
12 CHRIS: Oh, Higgins. Uh...nothing's wrong... nothing at all.
13 HIGGINS: (FILTER) Well now that's a relief to 'ear it is.
14 CHRIS: How'd everything go?
15 HIGGINS: Smooth, Guvnor.. no trouble at all.
16 CHRIS: Good.
17 HIGGINS: Hope this ere delay ain't to cause ye any 'ardship,
18 Guvnor.
19 CHRIS: Well, as a matter of fact, it does make things sort of
20 awkward.
21 HIGGINS: There's a chance we'll be shoving off late tonight or
22 first thing in the morning.
23 CHRIS: I'm afraid that's no good Higgins. Look, you'd better
24 wait for me there.
25 HIGGINS: Oh?
26 CHRIS: I'll leave right away.. meet you in San Pedro tonight.
27 HIGGINS: It might mean I'll have to jump ship..
28 CHRIS: You won't mind that, will you?

1 HIGGINS: (CHUCKLES) I won't mind it a bit, Guvnor.
2 CHRIS: Where'll I find you?
3 HIGGINS: Just ask for Alvy Higgins.. they all know me along the
4 waterfront.
5 CHRIS: Lets fix a time and a place.
6 HIGGINS: Well, there's a little hotel not far from the docks - -
7 CHRIS: No, wait. I've got a better idea. A - a friend of min
8 has a beach house in Redondo. Why don't we meet there?
9 Nice and quiet. We won't be disturbed.
10 HIGGINS: What ever you say, Guvnor.
11 CHRIS: The address is 81374 Coast Road.
12 HIGGINS: 8-1-7
13 CHRIS: (CORRECTING HIM) 8-1-3-74. Better write it down.
14 HIGGINS: I'll remember it.
15 CHRIS: Write it down.
16 HIGGINS: Righto. (PAUSE) 81374. Got it.
17 CHRIS: I should be there around midnight.
18 HIGGINS: Midnight it is. Oh, and Guvnor - -
19 CHRIS: Yes?
20 HIGGINS: You'll have my money, eh?
21 CHRIS: Ten thousand.
22 HIGGINS: Cash. That was the understanding.
23 CHRIS: Right. You'll get whats coming to you, Higgins...don't
24 worry.
25 MUSIC: (BRIDGE)
26 SOUND: DOOR BUZZ OFF. PAUSE.. DOOR OPENS
27 EVE: Ch, Chris, darling..
28 CHRIS: Hello, Eve...
29 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS IN - DOOR CLOSE

1 EVE: I didn't expect to see you at this time of day.
2 CHRIS: I'm leaving town, Eve...
3 EVE: What?
4 CHRIS: (GRINS) Oh now wait...I don't mean for good. Just a
5 short vacation.
6 EVE: (SMILES) Don't scare me like that, darling.
7 CHRIS: Its just that I have to get away for a few days..take
8 your advice and sort of get hold of myself. Nerves,
9 y'know. That affiar at the bungalow the other night...
10 well, it is sort of catching up to me...
11 EVE: Of course, darling. I understand...
12 CHRIS: I was wondering, Eve... that beach house of yours in
13 Redondo... it's still for rent, isn't it?
14 EVE: Yes. Oh, Chris...that would be a wonderful place. So
15 quiet and peaceful... the ocean at your front door. We
16 could drive down there tonight..
17 CHRIS: Well, uh... if you don't mind, Eve... I'd rather be alone
18 for the first few days..you...understand.
19 EVE: Yes -- but, I'm going to miss you.
20 CHRIS: (CLOSE) And I'm going to miss you..
21 EVE: When are you leaving?
22 CHRIS: Right away, My stuff's packed... cars downstairs..
23 EVE: All right. I'll get the house key for you.
24 CHRIS: Thanks. Oh, and Eve - -
25 EVE: Yes?
26 CHRIS: I'd rather you told no one where I am...not at first
27 anyway.
28 EVE: Oh?

1 CHRIS: I'm thinking about Freddy. You know how he worries about
2 the firm.. something would come up at the office and he'd
3 be on the phone pestering me. I...I just don't want to
4 be bothered.

5 EVE: I know. All right, darling..I won't tell a soul.

6 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)

7 WHISTLER: It's regrettable, isn't it, Chris... having to give up
8 a girl like Eve... but she just doesn't fit in with your
9 plans, does she. You've made up your mind... know
10 exactly what you're going to do. Once you take care of
11 Alvy Higgins you'll drive on into Mexico with the King's
12 dagger, contact the interested buyers from there. After
13 you're received your money you can drop out of sight and
14 neither Freddy or Eve will ever find you ...

15 MUSIC: (POINTS)

16 You make excellent time on the road between San Francisco
17 and Los Angeles...arriving at Redondo Beach an hour and a
18 half ahead of schedule. You're eager to get it over
19 with, aren't you Chris...so you drive on to San Pedro on
20 the chance that Higgin's ship is still in the harbor...
21 that he's still aboard..

22 SOUND: ANTICIPATE HARBOR B.G.

23 CHRIS: (CALLS) Hello up there!

24 SAILOR: (OFF, SHOUTS BACK) Yeah...what can I do for you?

25 CHRIS: I'm looking for Alvy Higgins! Is he aboard?

26 SAILOR: Nope! Went ashore about ten minutes ago.

27 CHRIS: Ten minutes ago, huh?

1 SAILOR: Don't know when he'll be back. Said something about
2 having a big deal cooking over in Redondo.
3 CHRIS: Okay...thanks!
4 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)
5 WHISTLER: You've missed him, Chris...and that means you'll have to
6 go back to Redondo and wait for him. You walk back to
7 your car...and as you get in you sense a sudden movement
8 behind you... then... the cold, unmistakable feel of a
9 gun in the back of your head....
10 FREDDY: Hello, Chris.
11 CHRIS: (LOW, HOARSE) Freddy...
12 FREDDY: Surprised? (CHUCKLES) You see, I took the trouble to
13 call the steamship line, too...and when you didn't come
14 back to the office this afternoon I got a hunch you'd be
15 headed this way.
16 CHRIS: Look, Freddy - can't we talk -
17 FREDDY: Sorry .. no deal. This, as they so often say, is the
18 end of the line for you, old man. (BEATS) Start the
19 car.
20 CHRIS: Freddy, listen to me --
21 FREDDY: (SNAPS) Start the car!
22 MUSIC: (IN AND UNDER)
23 WHISTLER: Your heart is pounding in your throat as you drive along
24 the dark, deserted streets of the waterfront district...
25 and the panic within you mounts, doesn't it, Chris...
26 Your mind spinning furiously...desperately seeking a way
27 to outwit Freddy.
28 SOUND: CAR IN MOTION, UNDER

1 FREDDY: All right, Chris...Stop here...

2 SOUND: CAR PULLS UP TO STOP. HARBOR B.G.

3 Now get out.

4 SOUND: CAR DOOR OPEN...CLOSE...FOOTSTEPS

5 CHRIS: Freddy...wait a minute..

6 FREDDY: Move! Go on... straight ahead...out there on the dock..

7 and keep in the shadow...

8 SOUND: THEIR FOOTSTEPS ON DOCK, UNDER

9 How'll you want it, Chris - - in the back of the head..

10 just like you gave it to Captain Driscoll?

11 CHRIS: Listen to me, Freddy...you can have the thing...my share

12 of the money.

13 FREDDY: If I let you live, eh?

14 CHRIS: The firm... I'll get out..leave that to you, too.

15 FREDDY: Oh, there'd be so many complicated things to go over...

16 papers to sign and all that...and you might change your

17 mind...

18 CHRIS: I swear I -

19 FREDDY: No. Its much simpler this way, old man. A well placed

20 bullet and our partnership is dissolved...just like

21 (SNAPS FINGERS) that. All right...this is far enough.

22 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS STOP.

23 Turn around.

24 SOUND: FEW STEPS AS HE TURNS.

25 CHRIS: (LUNGES) I'll turn around all right!

26 WHISTLER: You lunge with a suddenness that takes Freddy completely

27 by surprise...

28 SOUND: STRUGGLE OF THE TWO MEN...BLOWS BEING STRUCK

1 WHISTLER: Then your fist catches him full on the jaw...he stagge
2 back...crashes into some empty crates...
3 SOUND: CRASH CRATES
4 In an instant you're on him...
5 SOUND: FEW MORE BLOWS...THEN ITS OVER
6 CHRIS: (BREATHING HEAVILY) All right, Freddy...I've got the
7 gun now...
8 FREDDY: (BREATHING HEAVILY) So... so you have, old man... so
9 you have.
10 CHRIS: (GRABS HIM) Get up!
11 SOUND: TRAIN WHISTLES OFF SLIGHTLY...APPROACHING UNDER
12 FREDDY: Look, Chris, old man...
13 CHRIS: Don't move!
14 FREDDY: Uh...I don't suppose you'd be interested in a little
15 proposition? (PAUSE) No...I don't suppose you would
16 be.
17 CHRIS: You don;t have much time, Freddy... as soon as that
18 freight train is close enough to cover the sound of
19 the shot...you're going to get the bullet you promised
20 me!
21 SOUND: TRAIN COMES ON
22 MUSIC: (PICKS UP BEAT TO CLIMAX, THEN DROP UNDER FOR:)
23 WHISTLER: Its all over quickly, isn't it, Chris. You stand there
24 as the train rumbles past...staring at the lifeless
25 body sprawled out at your feet. Then you slip the gun
26 into your pocket and hurry to your car.
27 MUSIC: (POINTS)

1 WHISTLER: A half an hour later you're at the beach house in
2 Redondo... Its only a few minutes after twelve but
3 you're pacing the floor nervously..occasionally
4 stopping to glance out the window. Higgins is late,
5 isn't he Chris...and as the minutes drag by you begin
6 to wonder if something has happened to him. Then
7 finally you hear a car pull up outside. As you hurry
8 to the door your hand slips around the gun in your
9 pocket...
10 SOUND: FOOTSTEPS.. DOOR OPEN
11 HIGGINS: Evenin' Guvnor..
12 CHRIS: (PLEASED) Well...well.. Higgins. I've been waiting
13 for you. Come in.
14 HIGGINS: Look, Guvnor, I - (BREAKS OFF) "Ere now.. whats the
15 idea of the gun?
16 CHRIS: I'll explain it all to you...inside, Mister Higgins.
17 MUSIC: (CURTAIN)

1 ANNCR: When you need gasoline - or a quart of oil - a free map
2 - or any of the numerous other services and conveniences
3 for which you rely on service stations - have you ever
4 wondered what you would do if service stations were few
5 and far between - or if they operated limited hours -
6 like banks? Fortunately - however - you don't have to
7 worry about this - because there are two-hundred-
8 thousand service stations throughout the states - to
9 deliver the forty-billion gallons of gasoline Americans
10 now use per year. And fifteen-thousand independent oil-
11 marketing companies - working in free competition - are
12 constantly striving to furnish ever-finer petroleum
13 products at lower prices. As a result of this free
14 competition - although prices of so many things have
15 skyrocketed - gasoline itself today costs no more than
16 it did twenty five years ago. Only gasoline taxes are
17 higher. But the quality of today's gasoline is so
18 much better - two gallons now go as far as three used
19 to. (PAUSE) I tell you these facts - because
20 throughout America - this week is officially known as
21 "Oil Progress" Week. But when you consider that U.S.
22 oil companies spend over one-hundred-million dollars on
23 research each year - and oil scientists have created
24 more than eight-thousand new inventions in the last five
25 years - it would be much more accurate to say: Every
26 week in free America - is oil progress week.

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 WHISTLER: Your plan has met with great success, hasn't it, Chris...

3 Yes, things have turned out much better than you

4 believed possible. Your partner, Freddy Stacey, is out

5 of the way...for good...and now all you have to do is

6 get the jewelled King's dagger from Higgins, rid

7 yourself of him as you did Freddy and then go to Mexico.

8 Once you're safely across the border you're certain that

9 you can complete the sale of your rare and highly

10 valuable merchandise.... With Freddy dead you might

11 eventually return to Los Angeles, enjoy your new wealth

12 with Eve... One hundred thousand dollars ... a lot of

13 money, isn't it, Chris...the ancient item will bring

14 that, you know...one hundred thousand...all yours.

15 CHRIS: All right, Higgins...suppose we start with the dagger.

16 Hand it over.

17 HIGGINS: I ain't got it.

18 CHRIS: What?

19 HIGGINS: I ain't got it!

20 CHRIS: You're lying. (AS HE SEARCHES) Hold still...

21 HIGGINS: 'ere now...half a mo!

22 CHRIS: What's this?

23 HIGGINS: Give me that...Its mine!

24 CHRIS: An envelope.

25 SOUND: HE OPENS IT.

26 Money...a lot of money. Where'd you get this, Higgins?

27 HIGGINS: Mister Freddy...I give him that blasted knife or whatever
28 it was.

29 CHRIS: You...what?!

CE

1 HIGGINS: Thats right. I run into him just as I was leaving th
2 ship tonight. I told him I was expecting you but he
3 said you couldn't make it...

4 CHRIS: (LOW, STUNNED) You...gave ... Freddy the dagger?!

1 HIGGINS: I got to thinking about it after I left 'im...that
2 maybe he was double crossing you so I decided to come
3 out here...see if you wuz waitin'.
4 CHRIS: (REALIZING) He had it with him all the time. (IDEA)
5 If they haven't found the body yet there's a chance
6 I -
7 HIGGINS: Body?
8 CHRIS: Yes, Higgins.. I killed Freddy with this gun.. now I'm
9 going to have to kill you, too.
10 HIGGINS: Now 'ere 'ere, Guvnor...
11 CHRIS: I'll need this ten thousand of yours, Higgins..in
12 case the police have already found Freddy's body and
13 the dagger. Now move..(JABS) Move, I said!
14 SOUND: THEIR FOOTSTEPS
15 CHRIS: We're going to take a nice quiet little walk along
16 the beach.
17 SOUND: DOOR OPENS
18 COP: Hold it, buddy.
19 CHRIS: (JUMPS, STARTLED) What - -
20 COP: We're from the Sheriff's office..
21 SOUND: SCUFFLE, UNDER
22 COP: (EFFORT) Drop that gun... drop it!
23 SOUND: GUN FALLS TO FLOOR
24 That's better.
25 HIGGINS: (RELIEF) Lord luvva duck.. this is one time olè Alvy
26 Higgins is 'appy to see the law. This bloke was
27 going to kill me.
28 COP: That so?

1 HIGGINS: How'd you gents happen to get 'ere....?
2 COP: Man named Fred Stacy was murdered over in Pedro
3 tonight. We found this old knife with the body --
4 all wrapped up in this

5 SOUND: (LIGHT RUSTLE OF PAPER)
6 Just plain wrapping paper, but there's an address
7 scribbled on it....31374 Coast Road....

8 CHRIS: Higgins....did you -- (TRAILS OFF)

9 HIGGINS: That's right....I wrote the address down.....just lik
10 you asked me to.... remember, Gavnor? You insisted
11 upon it -- and (CHUCKLES) by blimey, Alvy Higgins'
12 obliged!

13 MUSIC: (TYMPS)

14 WHISTLER: (WHISTLE)

1 ANNCR: Let that whistle be your signal - for the Signal Oil
2 program - The Whistler - each Sunday night at this
3 same time. Meantime Signal Oil Company and the
4 friendly independent dealers who help you go-farther
5 with Signal Gasoline - hope you'll remember:
6 Regardless of what gasoline you use - you'll enjoy
7 MORE miles of happy driving - if you drive at
8 sensible speeds - obey traffic regulations - and avoid
9 taking chances. You may even save a life; possibly
10 your own!

1 ANNCR: Featured in tonight's story were Bill Forman as The
2 Whistler, Larry Dobkin, Michael Ann Barrett, Ted
3 Osborne, Ben Wright and Herb Lytton. The Whistler w
4 produced and directed by George W. Allen with story
5 by Adrian Gendot.... Music by Wilbur Hatch...and was
6 transmitted overseas by the Armed Forces Radio
7 Service. The Whistler is entirely fictional and all
8 characters portrayed on The Whistler are also
9 fictional. Any similarity of names or resemblances t
10 persons living or dead, is purely coincidental.

11 (PAUSE)

12 Remember to tune in at this same time next Sunday
13 when the Signal Oil Company will bring you another
14 strange story by The Whistler, entitled "Alias Mr.
15 Alden", a story of intrigue and excitement, set
16 against the fabulous background of Singapore.
17 Marvin Miller speaking for the Signal Oil Company.
18 Stay tuned now for "OUR MISS BROOKS", starring EVE
19 ARDEN which follows immediately over most of these
20 stations.

21 This is the CBS ... RADIO Network!